



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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7 APRIL 1966

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam

Ky again appears "determined" to take Da Nang by force, although the city was quiet this evening after a flurry of "alerts" by both antigovernment and government forces earlier in the day.

This evening (Saigon time), Ky told Ambassador Lodge, "If we take no action now, the government will have lost it for good." Later he said, "I will give the order tonight." American officials feel that Ky is being incorrectly informed about the situation in Da Nang.

Ky also suggested that he might not be able to restrain the Saigon marines--still sitting on their hands at the Da Nang airport--much longer. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] their tempers are wearing thin under taunts from struggle group loudspeakers, and that even some members of the Directorate are disturbed by the government's inactivity at Da Nang.

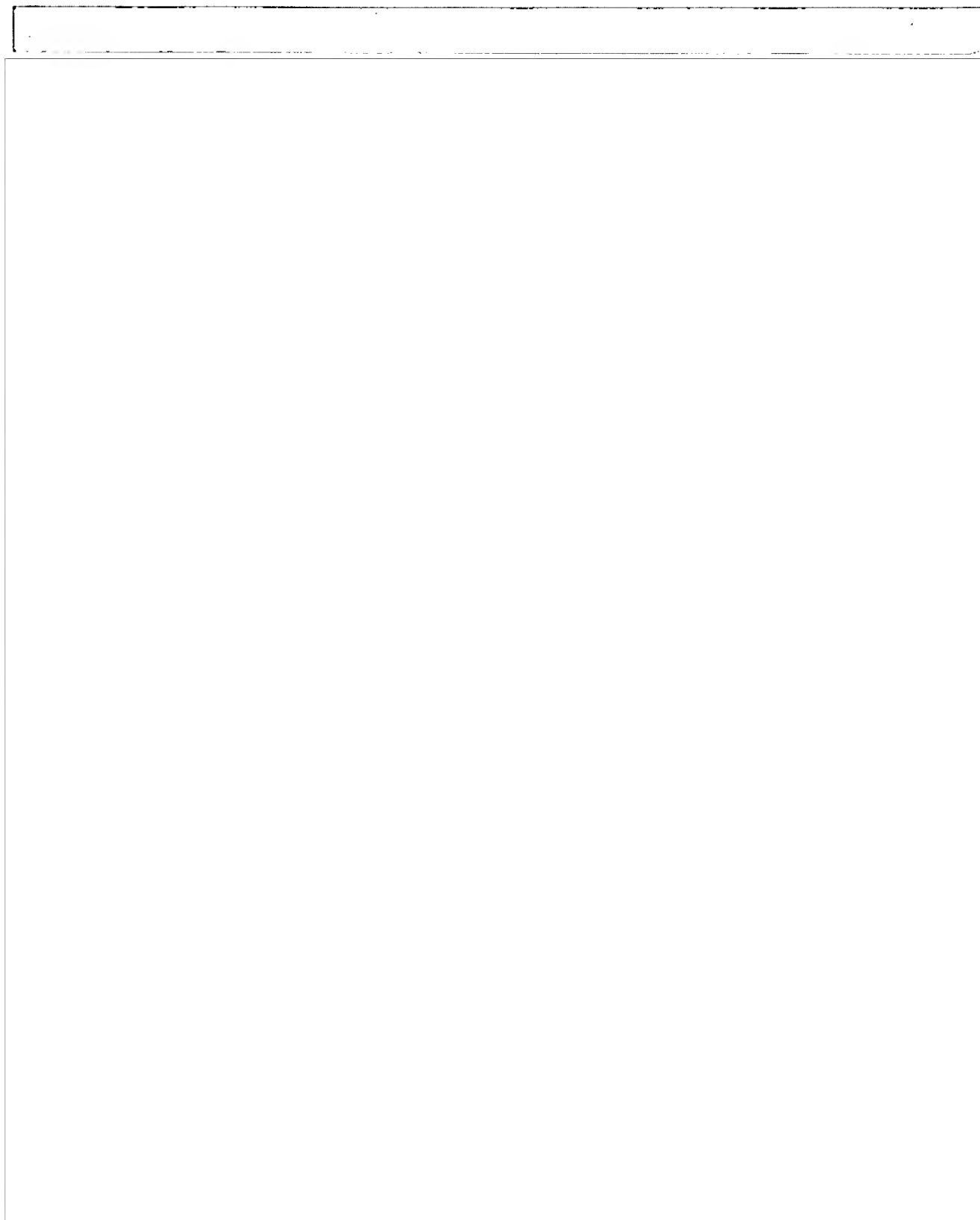
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In Saigon, ugly violence was continuing this evening despite a Buddhist Institute communiqué calling for temporary cessation of the "struggle" to allow Ky publicly to confirm prior verbal communications to Buddhist leaders.

There are good indications, however, that--as in the past--the Buddhists and Ky are interpreting their exchanges differently, and that their positions on the composition of a constituent assembly still differ fundamentally.

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2. Soviet Union

The Soviet fighter which crashed in the British sector of West Berlin yesterday has been salvaged and identified as a YAK-28 Firebar. Major portions of the aircraft are intact and should tell us much about the equipment aboard. The Firebar is the latest and most advanced fighter in the Soviet operational inventory

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3. Communist China

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4. Hong Kong

The colony was torn by serious rioting for a second night. British authorities have clamped on a curfew and mobilized all police and army units for riot control duty. These are the worst civil disturbances in Hong Kong since Chinese secret societies and criminal elements went on a five-day rampage in 1956. The Chinese Communists have not yet moved to take advantage of the present trouble.

5. India

There was more violence in the Calcutta area today, and sporadic clashes with riot-control police will probably continue for several more days. The coalition of leftists which sparked these disorders probably sees them as dress rehearsals for larger efforts when the food crisis deepens in late spring and summer.

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6. Rhodesia

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7. Bolivia

Adherents of the once proud Nationalist Revolutionary Movement are arranging a big demonstration in La Paz Saturday to mark the anniversary of the 1952 revolution. The forthcoming presidential election has already increased political tensions, and these demonstrations could easily provide the spark for violence of the sort that is all too common in Bolivia.

This would be particularly likely if presidential aspirant Barrientos goes through with his plan to march a large group of his loyal campesino followers into La Paz. Since the holidaying campesinos will in all likelihood be quite drunk, clashes with the demonstrators would seem a good possibility.

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8. Dominican Republic

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